

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

SUMMARY OF 2010 LEGISLATION

One Hundred First Legislature  
Second Session

Senator Bill Avery, Chair  
Senator Scott Price, Vice-Chair  
Senator Bob Giese  
Senator Charlie Janssen  
Senator Russ Karpisek  
Senator Bob Krist  
Senator Rich Pahls  
Senator Kate Sullivan

Christy Abraham, Legal Counsel  
Sherry Shaffer, Committee Clerk

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**BILL SUMMARIES: 2009 BILLS ENACTED IN 2010**

**LB 139 (Avery) Rename the Commission on Mexican-Americans**

LB 139 changes the name of the Commission on Mexican-Americans to the Commission on Hispanic-Americans.

The committee amendment changes the name of the Commission on Mexican-Americans to the Commission on Latino-Americans.

Any money remaining in the Commission on Mexican-Americans Cash Fund on the effective date of this act will be transferred to the Commission on Latino-Americans Cash Fund, which is created.

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**LB 279 (Avery) Require notification to military installations regarding development of real property**

LB 279 requires municipalities and counties to provide notification to a military installation which is located within its jurisdiction regarding any development of property which may affect the military installation.

The municipality or county will deliver the notification of the development to the official in charge of the installation. The notification will include the name of the property owner, the location of the development, and a description of the type of development.

The committee amendment strikes the original sections of the bill and replaces them with the following provisions:

When a city or county is considering the adoption or amendment of a zoning ordinance or approval of the platting or replatting of any development of real estate, the city or county will notify any military installation located in the city or county if the city or county has received a written request for such notification from the military installation. The county or city will deliver the notification at least ten days prior to the meeting in which the proposal is to be considered.

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**LB 325 (Nelson) Change provisions relating to elections**

LB 325 makes several changes to the Election Act, including changes to provisions relating to when voters receive provisional ballots, the duties of an election commissioner or county clerk when information is received that a voter has moved, and where candidates for city and villages offices file candidate filing forms.

The amendment strikes all of the original sections and inserts the following new provisions:

If the name of a registered voter does not appear on the precinct list due to error, the election commissioner or county clerk will designate whether the voter is entitled to a regular ballot or a provisional ballot. Currently, the poll worker makes the correction in the precinct list and allows the voter to receive a regular ballot.

Similarly, if a registered voter moves to a new residence within the same county and precinct but the voter registration register does not reflect that move, the election commissioner or county clerk will designate whether the voter is entitled to a regular ballot or a provisional ballot. Currently, the voter is allowed to complete a new voter registration application to update his or her address and is then allowed to receive a regular ballot.

When an election commissioner or county clerk receives information that a registered voter has moved, the election commissioner or county clerk will update the voter registration register to indicate the voter may have moved. Currently, the law requires the election official to immediately update the voter registration record.

For candidates running for city or village offices, the candidate filing form will be filed with the election commissioner or county clerk. Currently, these offices file with the city or village clerk.

Finally, the amendment changes the language on the form when a person is challenged on eligibility to vote based on age to make it consistent with the voter registration form.

The bill was further amended on Select File to clarify when a provisional ballot will be counted. The amendment also clarifies that the election commissioner or county clerk will implement the policy on the designation of ballots uniformly throughout the county.

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**LB 475 (Stuthman) Change duties of county comptroller and create office of auditor**

LB 475 eliminates the position of county comptroller. In current law, any county having a population over 300,000 inhabitants shall have a county comptroller. The county clerk is designated as the county comptroller.

The committee amendment strikes the original sections of the bill and replaces them with the following provisions:

In any county in which a metropolitan class city is located, the elected position of county comptroller is created. The county comptroller will act as the chief auditing officer, internal auditor, and have general auditing authority over all officers of the county. No person will seek nomination or appointment for the

office of county comptroller, nor serve in that capacity, unless he or she has been issued a certificate of certified public accountant by the Board of Public Accountancy.

The county clerk will serve as the ex officio county comptroller until the county comptroller is elected in 2010. The county comptroller will be elected on the statewide general ballot in 2010 and each four years thereafter. The county comptroller will be elected on a partisan ballot.

The county comptroller need not be a resident of the county when he or she files for election, but a county comptroller will reside in the county when he or she holds office.

The county comptroller will execute a bond in a sum not less than \$1000 to be fixed by the county board.

Sections 23-1402, 23-1403 and 23-1404, dealing with duties of the county comptroller, are outright repealed because they contain duties which are duplicative of the duties of the county clerk.

The bill was amended on General File. The following amendment replaces the committee amendment and becomes the bill:

The amendment provides that in any county in which a city of the metropolitan class is located, the county board will provide for an appointed, internal auditor who reports directly to the board.

The auditor will examine all books and records of all elected or appointed county offices in accordance with the generally accepted government auditing standards.

After an audit, the auditor will report to the board and the official whose office was subject to the audit, the fiscal condition of that office.

With the amendment, the county comptroller will no longer act as the internal auditor for the county.

The act becomes operative on January 1, 2011.

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**LB 512 (Lautenbaugh) Change airport zoning provisions relating to the regulation of airport hazards**

LB 512 amends the Airport Zoning Act to provide that every political subdivision that has adopted a comprehensive plan and zoning regulations and has an airport hazard

area within the area of its zoning jurisdiction will adopt airport zoning regulations for the airport hazard area. These regulations will meet the minimum regulations as prescribed by the Department of Aeronautics.

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**LB 550 (Avery) Change provisions relating to Military Department personnel and provide peace officer powers to National Guard members**

LB 550 changes provisions relating to Military Department personnel. With LB 550, the Military Department will consist of the Adjutant General in the minimum grade of lieutenant colonel, one deputy adjutant general, a chief of staff of the Military Department or deputy director with a minimum grade of colonel, one assistant director for Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, and other officers and enlisted personnel in the number and grade as prescribed by the United States Department of the Army and Department of the Air Force personnel documents.

The chief of the National Guard Bureau will appoint a United States property and fiscal officer who will hold the minimum grade of colonel. The Governor will nominate one or more officers for the position after consultation with the Adjutant General.

LB 550 extends law enforcement authority the Nebraska National Guard members serving in federal Title 32 United States Code status. It also extends law enforcement authority to National Guard members from other states and territories that come to the aid of Nebraska. Currently, National Guard members have law enforcement authority while on state active duty orders in a state status.

The bill requires the Governor to specifically grant law enforcement authority and provides the ability to limit it when necessary. Currently this authority is granted automatically upon a call to state active duty.

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## SUMMARIES: 2009 BILLS ON GENERAL FILE IN 2010

### **LB 280 (Avery) Create the Commission on Military Affairs**

LB 280 creates the Commission on Military Affairs which will work with local, state, and federal officials to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to support the best interests of the military assets of Nebraska and the nation.

The commission will be composed of five members, including the Adjutant General. The Governor will appoint the members, with the approval of the Legislature. The bill outlines the terms of members, how to fill a vacancy, and when the Governor may remove a member.

The commission will select a chair, a vice-chair, and a secretary from among its members. The commission will meet as determined by the commission and will keep a record of its proceedings. Members, other than the Adjutant General, will be paid a per diem of \$50 for each day engaged in the performance of their duties.

The commission will employ an executive director and may employ a general counsel and other staff as necessary. The commission will prepare an annual report summarizing the military assets of Nebraska and the economic impact of those assets. The report will also include recommendations for preserving and sustaining military assets and missions in Nebraska and what actions may be taken to encourage expansion of such assets.

The bill was laid over on General File.

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### **LB 410 (Karpisek) Change provisions relating to recounts of elections**

LB 410 allows any candidate who failed to be nominated or elected to request a manual recount at his or her expense. The recount will be conducted by the county canvassing board. The requesting candidate may provide the filing officer with a list of up to ten election precincts to be recounted first and may waive the balance of the recount after these precincts have been recounted.

The cost of the recount will be determined for both the county and the listed precincts by the county election official. If the recount involves more than one county, the county election official will certify the cost to the Secretary of State who will notify the candidate of the determined cost of each county and for the listed precincts.

Currently, recounts are conducted using the same procedure as those used for ballots on election day.

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**LB 544 (Giese) Require the Secretary of State to publish guidelines for election workers**

LB 544 requires the Secretary of State to develop and publish guidelines for election workers, including the conduct of election workers on Election Day. The guidelines may also cover other conduct of election workers, taking into account variations between counties with and without election commissioners.

The bill failed to advance from General File.

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**LB 635 (Mello) Change reporting requirements for political party committees under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act**

LB 635 makes several changes to the reporting requirements of political party committees.

Specifically, the bill requires political party committees to file the same campaign statements as other committees. Currently, political party committees file a separate campaign statement as outlined in section 49-1457.

A contribution received as a result of subscriptions for political purposes to a political party committee that is \$50 or less will not be an anonymous contribution. Under current law, anonymous contributions cannot be accepted or expended.

Finally, a political party committee which makes a late independent expenditure will report the expenditure in the same manner as an independent committee which makes a late independent expenditure.

The committee amendment makes harmonizing and technical changes to the bill to provide that political parties will file the same campaign statements as other committees and will be required to report late independent expenditures in the same manner as independent committees.

The bill failed to advance from General File.

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**LB 638 (Lautenbaugh) Repeal the Campaign Finance Limitation Act and change reporting requirements under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act**

LB 638 repeals the Campaign Finance Limitation Act and changes reporting requirements under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

Reporting thresholds of contributions and expenditures are lowered to \$50. Current threshold levels are \$250 in most cases, but some thresholds are \$1000.

The bill also requires, beginning January 1, 2012, the electronic filing of campaign statements within five days after the receipt of a contribution or making an expenditure. Certain reports are required to be filed the next business day after receipt of a contribution or making an expenditure. Beginning January 1, 2010, the reports may be filed as described in current law or electronically.

The Accountability and Disclosure Commission is required by January 1, 2012 to make campaign statements available on its website on or before the next business day after receipt by the commission. By January 1, 2010, the commission will adopt rules and regulations to establish the procedures for electronic filing.

The bill was laid over on General File.

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**LB 674 (Nantkes) Authorize establishment of an internal auditing system by the University of Nebraska**

LB 674 applies in the event the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska establishes an internal auditing system consisting of an audit committee, an auditor, and other personnel.

The final audit reports issued will be maintained permanently as a public record and a copy of the audit reports will be provided to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

The audit committee or auditor will have access to all records of any University of Nebraska-related unit, unless access to the records is prohibited by federal or state law.

When an audit or investigative finding emanates from nonpublic information pursuant to federal or state law, such nonpublic information is not a public record.

Working papers and other audit files maintained by the audit committee or auditor are not public records. The information contained in the working papers and audit files are not a public record except to a county attorney or Attorney General in connection to an investigation, to the Legislative Performance Audit Committee in the course of their official duties, or to federal agencies that have made grants to the University of Nebraska. The audit committee may make the working papers available for purposes of an external quality control review. However, any reports made from such external quality control review are not a public record.

If any member of the audit committee or the auditor knowingly divulges confidential information, the person will be subject to removal or impeachment in addition to being guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.

The bill defines audit committee, auditor, and working papers.

The committee amendment makes several changes to the original bill.

The first change clarifies that when an audit or investigative finding emanates from public records, such public records will remain public.

Also, the Auditor of Public Accounts in the course of his or her official duties will have access to working papers and other audit files maintained by the audit committee or auditor.

Finally, the State Government Effectiveness Act is amended to add the University of Nebraska internal auditor to the definition of “official.” The effect of this change is to allow state employees to report wrongdoing to the internal auditor and receive the protections afforded under the State Government Effectiveness Act.

**BILL SUMMARIES: 2009 BILLS HELD BY COMMITTEE IN 2010**

**LB 17 (White) Provide for a tuition waiver for combat-injured veterans**

LB 17 provides that the University of Nebraska, state colleges, and the community colleges will waive all tuition on behalf of a veteran who is a) separated from military service as a result of combat-related injuries or b) permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service.

An application for a waiver will be submitted through a recognized veterans organization or a county veterans service worker after a thorough investigation to determine the applicant's eligibility. The application is then transmitted to the Director of Veterans' Affairs.

The director will certify to the university or colleges if the applicant is eligible for a waiver. The decision of the director, absent fraud or misrepresentation, is final and binding.

The waiver will be valid for one degree, diploma, or certificate from a community college and one baccalaureate degree. Receipt of a degree, diploma, or certificate from a community college will precede the receipt of the baccalaureate degree.

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**LB 33 (Fulton) Change county zoning provisions with respect to density of population**

LB 33 allows every county in which a city of the primary class is located (i.e. Lancaster) to regulate and restrict the density of population, including the voluntary transfer of noncontiguous residential density of population rights.

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**LB 66 (Rogert) Change limits on contributions and gifts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act**

LB 66 increases the limits on contributions and gifts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

Specifically, the bill includes the following:

It excludes food and beverages, not to exceed \$100 in value during a calendar year, from the definition of contribution. The current amount is \$50.

Gifts of acknowledgment from committees are raised from \$50 to \$100 to any one individual.

The prohibition of accepting a contribution or expenditure of more than \$50 in cash is raised to \$100. Contributions and expenditures of more than \$100 in cash will be made by written instrument containing the name of the payor and payee.

Currently, persons are prohibited from accepting or expending an anonymous contribution with the exception of contributions received as the result of a fundraising event, or from the sale of political merchandise, or from fees, dues, or subscriptions for political purposes to an independent committee. Under LB 66, amount of contribution which is not considered anonymous is raised from \$50 to \$100.

Finally, gifts from principals and lobbyists to officials and employees in the legislative and executive branches are raised from \$50 to \$100 within one calendar month.

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**LB 86 (Wallman) Change the Capitol Landscape Restoration Master Plan**

LB 86 provides that the implementation of the Capitol Landscape Restoration Master Plan may begin as soon as practicable during the capitol renovation, and at least 70% of the landscaping design will be completed by completion of the Capitol Masonry Restoration Project.

The Department of Administrative Services may contract for the technical specifications and fabrication of the courtyard fountains. The Nebraska Capitol Commission will consult the original design specification of the fountains during the planning and construction phase.

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**LB 115 (Louden) Eliminate the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery Advisory Board**

LB 115 eliminates the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery Advisory Board.

*Portions/Provisions of LB 115 were amended into LB 154 in 2009.*

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**LB 125 (Avery) Provide for voter registration on election day**

LB 125 allows electors to register to vote and vote on election day by completing a registration application. The elector may register and vote at either the election commissioner or county clerk's office or at his or her polling place. If the election is conducted by mail, the elector will register to vote and vote at the election commissioner or county clerk's office.

If the elector is registering in Nebraska for the first time and has not previously voted in the state, the elector is required to present a current, valid, photo identification or a copy of a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other current

government document that shows the name and address of the elector as they appear on the application.

The county clerk or election commissioner will, upon determining that credible evidence exists that a person is eligible to register and vote on election day, make the appropriate entries in the voter registration register to create a voter registration record for such person.

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**LB 126 (Avery) Require financial disclosure statements from constitutional officers and candidates**

LB 126 requires candidates for and officers serving as Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor of Public Accounts, State Treasurer or Attorney General to file a financial disclosure report at the time he or she files a candidate filing form and on the first day of each calendar quarter while he or she is in office. A candidate for or officer serving as Lieutenant Governor will file a financial disclosure report at the time he or she files a written consent to run for the office and on the first day of each calendar quarter while he or she is in office.

The financial disclosure report will include the full name of the individual, the office for which he or she is a candidate or which he or she holds, the dollar amount of any salary or wages received on a calendar year basis, the full name and address of each person from whom the individual receives the salary or wages, and an estimate of the amount of time spent in a calendar year in return for the salary or wages.

A civil fine is imposed if any person fails to file the financial disclosure report with the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Commission.

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**LB 191 (Fulton) Provide for a waiver of a fine or penalty for an information collection requirement for small businesses**

LB 191 prohibits a state agency or political subdivision from imposing a fine or penalty on a small business for an initial violation of such agency's or political subdivision's information collection requirements unless:

- a. the failure to impose such fine or penalty would interfere with the investigation into criminal activity;
- b. the violation infringes upon a provision of the Internal Revenue Code or the collection of any tax, debt, revenue, or receipt; or
- c. the violation was not corrected within six months after written notice.

These provisions do not apply when the small business has previously violated an information collection requirement.

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**LB 295 (Campbell) Provide and change recording requirements for filings with the register of deeds**

LB 295 provides guidelines for documents filed with the register of deeds.

With LB 295, margins, paper size, weight of paper, color of ink, and font size are specified. If an instrument does not meet the requirements prior to January 1, 2012, the register of deeds will charge an additional fee of \$10. On or after January 1, 2012, the register of deeds will refuse to record the instrument. Certain instruments are exempted from these requirements, such as instruments signed before the effective date of the act, instruments executed outside of the United States, and instruments formatted to meet court requirements.

Also, the bill requires every instrument recorded to contain certain information such as information of the person who prepared the instrument, the name and address of the taxpayer, a return address, and the name of the instrument.

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**LB 321 (Avery) Provide for state employees to participate in mentoring programs**

LB 321 allows a state employee to request up to four hours per month of mentoring leave with full pay to participate in a qualified mentoring program. The employee will receive his or her regular hourly wage for the time spent mentoring.

The bill defines mentoring program, nonprofit mentoring program, and qualified mentoring program.

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**LB 324 (Nelson) Provide for designation of voting entrances and change restrictions on electioneering**

LB 324 requires the election commissioner or county clerk to designate one or more primary voting entrances for each polling place or other building where voters cast ballots.

The bill prohibits any person from electioneering within one hundred feet of any primary voting entrance for any polling place or building designated for voters to cast ballots. The current prohibition is two hundred feet of any such polling place or building.

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**LB 337 (Friend) Change restrictions on advertising and promotional materials relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust**

Currently, advertising or promotional materials relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust may include references to the public office but not the officeholder by name.

LB 337 requires, beginning January 1, 2011, that such advertising or promotional materials will not refer to a state officeholder by name between January 1 of the year in which the Governor is elected and continuing through the day of the general election.

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**LB 349 (Lautenbaugh) Change provisions relating to the recall of elected officials**

With LB 349, the reasons for which a recall may be sought are limited to malfeasance in office, misfeasance in office, nonfeasance in office, or conviction of a crime involving an act of dishonesty or a false statement. Malfeasance, misfeasance and nonfeasance are defined in the bill. Currently, recall efforts do not need to be based on a specific reason.

The principal circulator or circulators of the recall will submit to the filing clerk a statement of sixty words or fewer alleging facts which, if true, establish the grounds of malfeasance, misfeasance, nonfeasance in office or conviction of a crime involving an act of dishonesty or a false statement.

Under current law, the individual sought to be recalled is notified that an affidavit has been filed by the principal circulator seeking his or her removal from office. The individual is then given the opportunity to file, within 20 days, a defense statement. With LB 349, the individual may decide, instead of filing a defense statement, to file suit in the district court to challenge the sufficiency of the allegations in the statement filed by the principal circulator or circulators. The court will presume the allegations are true and construe them in the light most favorable to the principal circulator or circulators. The court will determine, without hearing or cost, whether the allegations in the statement establish the existence of malfeasance, misfeasance, nonfeasance in office or conviction of a crime involving an act of dishonesty or a false statement. The court will notify the clerk and all parties within five days after the decision.

If the allegations are found to be sufficient, the individual whose removal is sought may submit a defense statement within 20 days after receiving the notice of the decision. After receipt of the defense statement or the expiration of the 20

day period if no defense statement is submitted, the filing clerk will issue the petition papers to the principal circulator or circulators.

If the allegations are found not to be sufficient, the filling clerk will not issue petition papers.

Finally, the bill requires the filing clerk to notify the Secretary of State when initial petition papers are issued, when the recall petition is found to be sufficient and an election will be held, and the results of recall elections. The Secretary of State will compile all of these records.

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**LB 350 (Lautenbaugh) Change provisions relating to real estate tracts and the designation of industrial areas**

LB 350 changes provisions relating to the designation of industrial tracts.

The bill changes the provisions regarding when a municipality may annex an industrial tract. With LB 350, the threshold of when a real estate tract will not be subject to inclusion within any city of the first or second class or village is raised from in excess of \$286,000 in assessed taxable valuation to in excess of \$5 million.

In addition to other factors, the real estate tract may be annexed by a municipality if it is located in a county with a population in excess of 10,000 persons. Under current law, the tract may be annexed if it is located in a county with a population in excess of 100,000.

The bill provides that five years after the creation of an industrial area, a municipality may file a notice with the owner of any designated industrial area tract that the municipality will terminate the designation 10 years after the date of the filing of such notice. The bill outlines how the municipality provides notice.

Finally, the bill provides additional procedures when a county board reviews any and all real estate tracts contained in any industrial area. Until September 4, 2019, any real estate tract used for industry prior to August 1979 will not be removed from the industrial area designation against the wishes of the owner as long as it is used in compliance with the definition of industry.

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**LB 362 (Avery) Change requirements for candidate filing forms**

LB 362 requires the candidate filing forms to contain the candidate's name, residence address, mailing address if different from residence address, telephone number, office sought, and party affiliation if seeking a partisan office.

*Portions/Provisions of LB 362 were amended into LB 501 in 2009.*

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**LB 363 (Avery) Prohibit certain expenditures by campaign committees**

LB 363 prohibits any committee from expending funds for the purchase or payment of postage for an individual voter or prospective voter for the purpose of requesting or returning a ballot. The bill also prohibits any committee from expending funds to purchase transportation services for voters or prospective voters to or from a polling site.

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**LB 382 (Rogert) Provide for voter registration on election day at the election office**

LB 382 allows electors to register to vote and vote on election day by completing a registration application. The elector may register and vote at the election commissioner or county clerk's office for his or her place of residence. If the election is conducted by mail, the elector will register to vote and vote at the election commissioner or county clerk's office.

If the elector is registering in Nebraska for the first time and has not previously voted in the state, the elector is required to present a current, valid, photo identification or a copy of a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other current government document that shows the name and address of the elector as they appear on the application.

The county clerk or election commissioner will, upon determining that credible evidence exists that a person is eligible to register and vote on election day, make the appropriate entries in the voter registration register to create a voter registration record for such person.

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**LB 465 (Christensen) Provide for videoconferencing and telephone conferences for educational service unit board meetings**

LB 465 adds educational service units to the list of public entities which can hold its public meetings by videoconferencing and telephone conference.

*Portions/Provisions of LB 465 were amended into LB 361 in 2009.*

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**LB 486 (Karpisek) Require certain governmental entities to identify themselves as such in their official name**

LB 486 states that the public has a vested interest in knowing when the state is engaging in an activity in competition with a private enterprise for a special benefit or

profit or is operating in a function not commonly perceived by the public to be a state function.

Therefore, the bill requires the state and local subdivisions to include in their official name the words political subdivision, government entity, or other similar words that identify it as a unit of government.

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**LB 509 (Pirsch) Redefine election period for the Campaign Finance Limitation Act**

LB 509 defines election period as the period beginning January 1 of the calendar year following the year of the last general election in which the office was on the ballot through the end of the calendar year of the following year.

The current definition of election period for legislators is the period beginning January 1 of the calendar year prior to the year of the election in which the candidate is seeking office through the end of the calendar year of such election. For other constitutional officers, the period is similar, but it begins on July 1 of the calendar year prior to the election year.

The definition of election period is used in both the Campaign Finance Limitation Act and the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

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**LB 527 (Fulton) Require installation of automatic vehicle location system devices in state-owned vehicles**

Under LB 527, each state-owned motor vehicle, beginning January 1, 2011, will have installed in it an automatic vehicle location system device which records and accounts for items such as the points between which the vehicle traveled, the odometer readings, and the time of arrival and departure.

All records created in the use of these vehicles equipped with the automatic vehicle location system devices will be maintained on a public web site.

The bill defines automatic vehicle location system as any global positioning satellite receiver capable of being installed in a state-owned vehicle that allows for a communication link between the receiver and a computer-operated tracking system.

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**LB 529 (Pahls) Transfer ownership of certain computer equipment from the Secretary of State to county clerks**

LB 529 provides that the Secretary of State will transfer to each county clerk the ownership of the computer terminal software including the printer which is compatible with the centralized computer system implemented for dissemination of financing

statements for certain types of collateral and used for inquires and searches of information in the centralized computer system.

The transfer will include all costs, fees, and service charges associated with ownership of the computer terminal hardware and printer.

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**LB 574 (Rogert) Change reporting requirements under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act**

LB 574 eliminates a reporting requirement for a corporation, labor organization, or industry, trade or professional association if it makes a contribution or expenditure, or provides personal services, with a value of more than \$250.

A reporting requirement is added under the bill for a corporation, labor organization, or industry, trade or professional association which establishes and administers a separate segregated political fund and makes expenditures or provides personal services for the establishment or administration of such fund. The report will include: the nature and value of the expenditure and the name of the candidate, committee or ballot question for which the expenditure was made; and a description of the personal services provided, the date of the services and the name of the candidate, committee or ballot question for which the personal services were provided.

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**LB 575 (Rogert) Change initiative and referendum petition provisions**

Under LB 575, the Nebraska State Patrol will have exclusive jurisdiction to investigate a potential violation regarding a signer or circulator of an initiative or referendum petition. The investigation will be conducted in cooperation with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General and the Department of Labor.

If the Attorney General determines there is probable cause to prosecute a violation regarding the circulation of an initiative and referendum petition, the Secretary of State will issue a cease and desist order suspending the circulation of the petition by the person alleged to have committed the violation.

The Secretary of State or local election official will not accept any signature on a petition gathered by a person who is subject to a cease and desist order. Any signature on a petition which is circulated or submitted for signature verification by a person convicted of violating the cease and desist order will be rejected and not counted.

The bill also requires court suits relating to initiative and referendum petitions to be advanced on the court docket and heard within 10 days after the suit is filed. The court will issue a decision within 15 days after the matter is submitted for decision. Either party may appeal directly to the Supreme Court.

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**LB 639 (Karpisek) Change provisions relating to telephone conferencing for public meetings**

Under current law, no more than one-half of the meetings in a calendar year held by governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized under the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act may be held by telephone conference call.

LB 639 provides that a governing body of a risk management pool and the advisory committees of the governing body may hold **more** than half of their meetings by telephone conference if the governing body's quarterly meetings are held in person.

*Portions/Provisions of LB 639 were amended into LB 361 in 2009.*

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**LB 645 (Mello) Change provisions relating to public contracts for services**

LB 645 requires state agencies to complete a cost-benefit analysis before entering into a proposed contract for services in excess of \$50,000. The analysis would be a comparison of using state employees to perform the service versus the proposed contract for service.

This provision applies if the job functions are being performed or have been performed by a state employee within 12 months immediately preceding the proposed effective date of the contract, or the services are required for new programs that were not in existence within the previous 12 months. A copy of the cost-benefit analysis will be filed with the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The bill provides several exceptions to the requirement that a state agency complete this analysis.

The material division of the Department of Administrative Services will develop guidelines for state agencies to use in conducting a cost-benefit analysis, including: the reason for purchasing the service instead of using state employees; a review of the long term cost savings; a justification for entering into the contract if it does not result in cost savings; whether the public's interest in having the services performed by a state agency outweighs entering into the contract; and an assistance plan for any displaced state employees.

The Department of Administrative Services will adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out these requirements.

The bill also outright repeals statutes relating to contracts for personal services and the current pre-process requirements.

**LB 662 (Janssen) Change provisions relating to nomination for certain offices**

LB 662 clarifies how a candidate is nominated by political party convention or committee. Under the bill, candidates for elective office may be nominated at a political party convention when there is a vacancy on the ballot for a partisan office pursuant to section 32-627 or when an office is to be filled at a special election pursuant to section 32-721.

If a candidate for a partisan office declines nomination, the filing officer will notify the persons whose names are attached to the nomination if the candidate was nominated by a political party convention. If the candidate was nominated by the primary, the chair or secretary of the political party will be notified. If it is a county office and there is no organized county political party, the filing officer will notify the state political party committee. The declination will create a vacancy on the ballot.

The bill also allows a petition candidate to file his or her acceptance at the time petitions are submitted.

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**LB 678 (Haar) Change provisions relating to minutes of public meetings**

LB 678 defines minutes in the Open Meetings Act to mean documentation of what occurred at the meeting which may include documentation in written form or an electronic recording, including audio or video recording of the meeting.

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## **BILL SUMMARIES: 2010 BILLS ENACTED IN 2010**

### **LB 721 (Avery) Change qualification requirements for the State Building Administrator**

LB 721 changes the qualifications of the State Building Administrator. With the bill, the Administrator is required to have a bachelor's degree or higher degree from a college or university or have at least five years' experience in property management or building management. Additionally, the Administrator is required to have at least four years' administrative experience in planning design, or construction of major construction projects.

Currently, the Administrator is required to have a bachelor's degree and four years' administrative experience. This bill provides the Administrator may have at least five years' experience in property or building management instead of a college degree.

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### **LB 722 (Avery) Change provisions relating to a state bonding requirement, sale of state property, and state-owned motor vehicles**

LB 722 changes three provisions relating to the Department of Administrative Services.

The first change allows the Risk Manager to determine the amount of the blanket corporate surety bond or equivalent commercial insurance for faithful performance and honesty for all state employees not specifically required to give bond. Currently, the state is limited to an amount not to exceed one million dollars.

The second change allows a state owned building that is designated for sale by the Vacant Building and Excess Land Committee and listed on the National Register of Historic Places to be sold to a not-for-profit community organization that intends to use the building for the purposes for which it was designed or intended. Under current law, state buildings that are to be sold must be sold, in order of priority, to a state agency, other political subdivisions of the state, persons who will use the building for middle-income or low-income rental housing for at least 15 years, and referrals from the Department of Economic Development. With LB 722, the state building division can follow the current process, or offer the building to a not-for-profit organization if the building is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

The final change eliminates a reference to state vehicles acquired through the federal surplus property program. The federal government has repealed its rule to require that the vehicle continue to be licensed with the federal government for a certain period after being purchased by a state. Since the federal government has repealed its rule, this provision in state law is no longer necessary.

The committee amendment expands what type of property which may be sold by the state to a not-for-profit organization if the property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

With the amendment, a building or land which is declared excess or vacant and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places may be sold to a not-for-profit community organization that intends to use the building or land for the purposes for which it was intended.

Under the current bill, only buildings on the National Register of Historic Places were allowed to be sold to a not-for-profit organization.

The bill was further amended on Select File to clarify that state property listed on the National Register of Historic places that is sold to a not-for-profit must be maintained to keep its historic and cultural integrity.

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**LB 742 (McCoy) Provide requirements for settled claims and settlement agreements involving public entities and provide that such claims and agreements are public records**

LB 742 provides that a public entity which enters into or is otherwise a party to a settlement regarding a claim or potential claim will execute a settlement agreement concerning the claim and such settlement agreement will be a public record. The settlement agreement will contain a brief description of the claim.

Except for settlement agreements involving the state, a state agency or state employee, or pursuant to claims under the State Tort Claims Act, any settlement agreement entered into by a public entity will be included as an agenda item for the next public meeting of the governing body.

The bill also provides that a confidentiality or nondisclosure clause or provision contained in a settlement agreement entered into by a public entity, or to which a public entity is a party, is void as against public policy and unenforceable.

LB 742 defines several terms used in the bill. Confidentiality or nondisclosure clause or provision means any covenant adopted by parties that designates the settlement agreement as confidential.

Governing body is defined as the village board of a village, the city council of a city, the board of commissioners or supervisors of a county, and any elected or appointed body holding the authority to determine the appropriations of any other public entity.

Public entity means (i) the state, county, city, village or political subdivision, (ii) any agency, branch, department, board or committee of a body referred to in subdivision (i); (iii) any district, society, association, or institution in this state with authority to levy a tax; and (iv) any instrumentality exercising essentially a public function.

Finally, settlement agreement is defined as a contractual agreement between parties by which each party agrees to a resolution of the underlying dispute.

The committee amendment strikes the original provisions of the bill and inserts the following new language:

A public entity or a private insurance company or public agency providing coverage to a public entity, public official or public employee will maintain a public record of all settled claims. The record for claims settled in the amount of \$50,000 or more, or one percent of the total annual budget of the public entity, whichever is less, will include a written settlement agreement. The settlement agreement will contain a brief description of the claim, the amount of financial compensation, and the party or parties released.

Any claim or settlement agreement involving a public entity will be a public record but, to the extent permitted by other statutes, specific portions may be withheld from the public.

A private insurance company or public agency providing coverage to a public entity will provide a copy of the claim or settlement agreement to the public entity to be maintained as a public record.

Except for settlement agreements involving the state, any settlement agreements with an amount of \$50,000 or more, or one percent of the total annual budget of the public entity, whichever is less, will be included as an agenda item at the next meeting of the public agency or public entity.

Confidentiality or nondisclosure clauses contained in a settlement agreement will neither cause nor permit a settlement agreement or claim or any other public record to be withheld from the public. Nothing in this bill requires a public official or employee or any party to the settlement agreement to comment on the agreement.

The amendment defines confidentiality or nondisclosure clause, public body, public entity, and settlement agreement.

The bill was amended on General File to clarify that insurance companies do not need to maintain public records of all settled claims involving a public entity. The insurance companies are required to provide a copy of settled claims to the public entity. The second change clarifies that this bill does not apply to claims made in connection with insured or self-insured health insurance contracts.

LB 768 allows a county board of supervisors to terminate a township board if the township board has become inactive. When two or more township board positions are vacant and the county board has been unable to fill those positions for six or more months, the township is considered inactive.

The county board will hold a public hearing on the issue of termination after giving notice. If there have been no appointments to the township board within 30 days after the public hearing, the county board may adopt a resolution to terminate the township board on the following June 30.

Between the date of the public hearing and the termination of the township board, no tax distributions will be made to the township. Those funds will be held by the county and disbursed only to pay obligations of the township board. All claims against the township board will be filed with the county clerk and heard by the county board.

When the township board is terminated, the county board will settle all unfinished business and dispose of all property under ownership of the township. Any remaining township board members serving as of the date of termination will deposit all records, papers and documents relating to the township and certify the amount of the outstanding indebtedness. The county board will levy a tax upon taxable property within the township to pay such debts.

If more than 50% of the township boards in a county have been terminated, the county board will file a resolution supporting the discontinuance of the township organization.

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**LB 791 (Pirsch) Provide for the electronic filing of certain documents with the Secretary of State**

LB 791 allows the Secretary of State to provide for the electronic transmission and filing of documents under the Business Corporation Act, the Limited Liability Company Act, the Nebraska Limited Cooperative Association Act, the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act, the Nebraska Professional Corporation Act, the Nebraska Uniform Limited Partnership Act, the Nonstock Cooperative Marketing Act, the Uniform Partnership Act of 1998, and the Trademark Registration Act.

The bill also provides for the electronic transmission and filing of documents under any filing provisions for cooperative corporations, cooperative farm land companies, and trade names.

The Secretary of State will adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to implement these provisions.

The committee amendment eliminates language in the Business Corporation Act which prohibits the delivery of documents by electronic transmission.

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**LB 852 (Avery) Provide for write-in space on official ballots for certain offices**

LB 852 allows for write-in space on the primary ballot for directors of natural resources districts and directors of public power districts. At the general election ballot, the bill allows write-in space for directors of reclamation districts, members of the board of educational service units, directors of natural resources districts, directors of public power districts and members of county weed district boards.

Currently, these offices are not allowed write-in space on the ballot.

The bill was amended on Select File to add an operative date of January 1, 2011.

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**LB 947 (Avery) Eliminate the Community Development Block Grant Program Advisory Committee**

LB 947 eliminates the Community Development Block Grant Program Advisory Committee. The duties of the committee are assigned to the Economic Development Commission.

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**LB 951 (Avery) Change provisions relating to early voting, multiple office-holding and provisional ballots**

LB 951 implements the requirements of the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act.

The bill provides that members of the armed forces, overseas citizens and persons residing outside the country may indicate a preference for ballots and other election materials to be delivered via facsimile transmission or electronic mail by indicating such preference on the Federal Post Card Application. If the person indicates such a preference, the county election official will accommodate the voter's preference.

Also, the Secretary of State will develop a process for members of the armed forces, persons living outside the country and overseas citizens casting a ballot to check the status of their ballot via the Internet or a toll-free telephone call.

The bill streamlines and reorganizes the current provisions in law dealing with ballots for members of the armed forces and overseas citizens. As part of this process, section 32-939.01 dealing with persons residing outside the country is outright repealed because its provisions are included in other sections of the bill.

The bill was amended on Select File to include provisions of LB 716 and LB 850.

LB 716 adds community college area to the definition of high elective office.

Current law provides that no person serving in high elective office shall simultaneously serve in any other high elective office. Therefore, with these provisions, members of the community college board of governors will not be allowed to serve in any other high elective office simultaneously.

Other high elective offices include: members of the legislature, governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, state treasurer, attorney general, public service commission, state board of education, University of Nebraska board of regents, county, city, learning community or school district elective office.

There is also language clarifying that any person holding more than one high elective office on the effective date of this act will be entitled to serve the remainder of all terms for which he or she was elected.

LB 850 requires the University of Nebraska, state colleges, and community colleges to provide information on early voting prior to each statewide primary and general election. This information will be provided to each student enrolled in a degree or certificate program and physically in attendance at the institution.

This requirement is in addition to the federal law which requires universities and colleges to make a good faith effort to distribute voter registration materials.

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**LB 970 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to appeals from county planning commission decisions**

LB 970 provides that an appeal of a decision by the county planning commission regarding a conditional use or special exception will be made to the county board. An appeal of a decision by a county board regarding a conditional use or special exception will be made to the district court.

Currently, a decision by the county planning commission or county board is appealed to the district court. This bill requires planning commission decisions to be appealed to the county board.

The committee amendment replaces the original sections of the bill.

In any county in which is located a city of the primary class, an appeal of a decision by the county planning commission regarding a conditional use or special exception will be made to the county board. An appeal of a decision by the county board will be made to the district court.

In every other county, the current process will be used. The current process provides that an appeal of a decision by the county planning commission or county board shall be made to the district court.

**LB 978 (Mello) Provide requirements relating to energy star certified appliances in the state's competitive bidding process**

With LB 978, any appliance purchased or leased by the Department of Administrative Services under the competitive bidding process will be energy star certified. The material administrator may exempt the purchase or lease of an energy star certified appliance if he or she determines the cost of compliance would exceed the projected energy cost savings.

Energy star certified is defined in the bill as approval of energy usage by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Energy. The approval may be signified by the display of the energy star label.

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**LB 987 (Krist) Create the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program and provide duties for the Department of Economic Development**

Originally, LB 987 required the Department of Veterans' Affairs to contract with the University of Nebraska Medical Center Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases for a study validating diagnostic technology for early detection of lung cancer using an inexpensive, noninvasive test.

Six hundred fifty thousand dollars would be transferred from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to the Department of Veterans' Affairs to contract for this study.

The committee amendment provided that the Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases could, in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, include any postsecondary institution in Nebraska which has a college of medicine in the conduct of the study. The committee amendment was not adopted.

On General File, an amendment was adopted which replaced the bill. The amendment created the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program. The Department of Economic Development will award a grant to a city of the metropolitan class in the amount of two hundred thousand dollars, contingent upon formal notification by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development that it intends to award a grant to a city of the metropolitan class to carry out the federal Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992.

*Portions/Provisions of LB 636 (Appropriations Committee) were amended into LB 987.*

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## **BILL SUMMARIES: 2010 BILLS ON GENERAL FILE IN 2010**

### **LB 686 (Wightman) Change fees received by clerks and registers of deeds**

LB 686 changes fees received by clerks and registers of deeds.

The current fee for recording a deed, mortgage, will, decree in a testate estate, or any other instrument with the register of deeds, is five dollars per page. Under LB 686, the fee will be increased to ten dollars for the first page and six dollars for each additional page. Section 33-112, which provides the clerk or register of deeds to receive a fee for entering instruments in the numerical record, is outright repealed.

Additionally, the fees for filing and indexing a notice of lien under the Uniform Federal Lien Registration Act and the Uniform State Tax Lien Registration and Enforcement Act are raised to two times the fee required for recording documents with the register of deeds. The fees in these two acts are split between the Secretary of State and the designated county in the filing.

The act becomes operative on January 1, 2011.

The committee amendment provides that two dollars and fifty cents of the ten-dollar fee for recording the first page and fifty cents of the six-dollar fee for recording each additional page will be used exclusively for preserving and maintaining public records in the register of deed's office. The fees will also be used for modernization and technology needs of these records.

The amendment also provides that these funds will not be substituted for other allocations of county general funds to the register of deeds.

The bill failed to advance from General File.

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### **LB 716 (Avery) Change eligibility requirements for members of a community college board of governors**

LB 716 adds community college area to the definition of high elective office.

Current law provides that no person serving in high elective office shall simultaneously serve in any other high elective office. Therefore, under this bill, members of the community college board of governors will not be allowed to serve in any other high elective office simultaneously.

Other high elective offices include: members of the legislature, governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, state treasurer, attorney general, public service commission, state board of education, University of Nebraska board of regents, county, city, learning community or school district elective office.

The bill also eliminates language which provides that no person is eligible for membership on a community college board of governors who is an elected or appointed member of any other board relating to education.

The committee amendment clarifies that any person holding more than one high elective office on the effective date of this act will be entitled to serve the remainder of all terms for which he or she was elected.

*Portions/Provisions of LB 716 were amended into LB 951.*

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**LB 767 (Price) Change county ordinance provisions to provide for notice to be given for abandoned motor vehicles**

LB 767 requires counties, when enacting ordinances dealing with abandoned motor vehicles, to include provisions requiring advance notice by the county to the last registered owner of the vehicle, if any, and to the holder of any lien against the vehicle before vesting the title of the motor vehicle in the county or the sale of the vehicle.

The bill also contains an emergency clause.

The committee amendment replaces the original sections of the bill.

The amendment clarifies that the current provisions in law dealing with abandoned motor vehicles will apply to any county having custody of an abandoned motor vehicle pursuant to a county abandoned motor vehicle ordinance.

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**LB 850 (Avery) Require public postsecondary educational institutions to provide information on early voting to students**

LB 850 requires the University of Nebraska, state colleges, and community colleges to provide information on early voting prior to each statewide primary and general election. This information will be provided to each student enrolled in a degree or certificate program and physically in attendance at the institution.

This requirement is in addition to the federal law which requires universities and colleges to make a good faith effort to distribute voter registration materials.

*Portions/Provisions of LB 850 were amended into LB 951.*

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## **BILL SUMMARIES: 2010 BILLS ON SELECT FILE IN 2010**

### **LB 948 (Avery) Change provisions relating to agency requisitions and competitive bidding**

LB 948 provides that the Department of Administrative Services, in determining the lowest responsible bidder for purchases requiring competitive bids, will give consideration to the life-cycle costs for all classes of equipment, evidence of expected life and resale value, repair and maintenance costs, and energy consumption, including fuel, on a per-year basis.

The bill also requires bidders to provide data relating to life-cycle costs for heavy equipment, including, but not limited to: motor graders, wheel loaders, paving equipment, and backhoe loaders.

Currently, DAS will consider information on life-cycle costing when it is furnished by the bidder. With this bill, bidders will be required to provide information on life-cycle costs for heavy equipment.

The committee amendment makes three changes to the original bill.

The first change eliminates the phrase “but not limited to” in the definition of heavy equipment. With the change, it clarifies the definition of heavy equipment to limit it to those items listed in the bill.

The second change requires the material division to consider the data relating to life-cycle costing provided by the bidders on heavy equipment to ensure a responsible purchase is made by the state.

The final change removes “resale value” from the list of items to be given consideration on life-cycle costs. Resale value is being removed from consideration because the state uses the state auction process to sell used equipment and this term is not needed.

A motion to unanimously bracket this bill until April 14, 2010 was approved.

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## **BILL SUMMARIES: 2010 BILLS HELD BY COMMITTEE IN 2010**

### **LB 714 (Avery) Change requirements for disclaimers on political material**

LB 714 requires additional disclaimers for independent committees making an independent expenditure.

The first disclaimer requires the independent committee making an independent expenditure to include the name of the committee treasurer. Also, if the independent expenditure relates to a candidate, the disclaimer will include language that the printed matter or advertisement is not authorized by the candidate or the candidate committee.

Currently, a person who pays for the production of billboards, posters or other printed matter relating to a candidate or ballot question is required to have a disclaimer containing the name and street address of the person. If the person pays for a radio or television advertisement relating to a candidate or ballot question, a disclaimer with the person's name is required. The radio or television station keeps the street address of the person on file and discloses it upon request.

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### **LB 715 (Avery) Authorize projects in a specific portion of the Nebraska State Capitol Environs District**

LB 715 amends the Nebraska State Capitol Environs District Act to provide that the State of Nebraska is empowered to participate in beautification projects in the State Capitol Environs District, including Centennial Mall, as an individual entity or with the City of Lincoln and County of Lancaster.

Similarly, the bill also provides that the City of Lincoln and County of Lancaster may participate singly, or with the State of Nebraska, on beautification projects in the Nebraska State Capitol Environs District, including Centennial Mall.

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### **LB 718 (Avery) Change requirements for petitions and petition signatures**

LB 718 changes requirements for petition circulators. Under the bill, a petition circulator will make available to each signer the object of the petition as printed on the petition before he or she signs. In order to ensure the circulator makes the object statement available to each signer, the circulator will read or show the printed portion of the petition, which includes the object statement, to each person before he or she signs.

For recall petitions, the circulator will make available the printed portion of the petition by reading or showing the printed items on the petition to the signer before he or she signs the petition. Items included on a recall petition include: the name and

office of the individual sought to be removed; the reason or reasons for which recall is sought; the defense statement, if any, submitted by the officials; and the name of the principal circulator or circulators.

Current law requires petition circulators to “state” to each signer the object of the petition, or the case of recall petitions, “state” the printed items listed above.

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**LB 753 (Christensen) Change qualifications for the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety**

LB 753 provides that after January 1, 2011, the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety shall have the following qualifications:

- A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university;
- At least fifteen years of law enforcement experience;
- At least five years of management experience in law enforcement; and
- A certificate of successful completion of command officer training offered by a nationally recognized program.

Currently, the Superintendent is required to have four years’ experience as a law enforcement officer prior to his or her appointment.

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**LB 794 (White) Change early voting provisions**

LB 794 provides for electronic transmission of election materials to voters residing outside the country.

Upon request of a member of the armed forces, a citizen residing outside the country or an overseas citizen, the election commissioner or county clerk will provide for the electronic transmission of an early voting ballot or special ballot.

The bill also allows a member of the armed forces, a citizen residing outside the country or an overseas citizen to register to vote and make application for ballots through an electronic transmission.

Finally, the bill allows the information submitted in the Federal Write-In Absentee ballot to be done by electronic transmission.

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**LB 815 (Haar) Change requirements for political subdivision budget statements and financial information on the state website**

LB 815 requires public entities covered under the Budget Act and public power districts to include in their budgets a statement setting out the amount of money received as private donations, gifts, or grants, the amount estimated to be received in the current and ensuing fiscal years and the source, allocation and expenditures of such money which was received in increments of \$1000 or more.

The bill also amends the Taxpayer Transparency Act to require the State Treasurer to publish on the state website the amount of money received by state agencies as private donations, gifts or grants and the source, allocation, and expenditure of such money which as received in increments of \$1000 or more.

The effect of this bill will be to require both state agencies and local political subdivisions to provide information on the source and amount of private funds they receive.

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**LB 875 (Giese) Provide for voter registration on the Secretary of State’s website**

LB 875 requires the Secretary of State to develop a website to allow for electronic voter registration and updating of voter registration records. An applicant who has a valid Nebraska motor vehicle operator’s license or state identification card may use the website to register to vote or update voter registration materials.

The Secretary of State will obtain a copy of the applicant’s digital signature from the Department of Motor Vehicle’s records for purposes of voter registration.

In addition to the information required on the current voter registration application, additional informational statements will be required when registering on line, including: an affirmation that the electronic application is true; the applicant agreeing to the use of his or her digital signature from the Department of Motor Vehicle’s records; that if the applicant is registering for the first time and has not previously voted in the state, additional photo identification may be needed; that the applications must be submitted electronically on or before the third Friday before the election; and the county election official will send an acknowledgment of registration to the applicant.

The bill also amends the motor vehicle operators’ licenses provisions to prohibit any official or employee in the Secretary of State’s office from releasing a digital signature except in specific circumstances.

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**LB 1003 (Giese) Provide for provisional ballots for change of residence in Nebraska**

LB 1003 provides that if a voter has moved from one residence to another within the state, the voter will be entitled to vote provisionally. Currently, voters who move **within the county** in which they are registered to vote are allowed to vote

provisionally. This bill allows someone who moves from one county to a different county to vote provisionally in their new county of residence.

**BILL SUMMARIES: 2010 BILLS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED IN 2010**

**LB 737 (Karpisek) Provide an exemption from the State Personnel System**

LB 737 exempts from the State Personnel System the directors of nursing employed by the Department of Correctional Services and the Department of Health and Human Services.

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**LB 777 (McCoy) Change provisions relating to presidential electors**

LB 777 eliminates the current presidential elector system in Nebraska in which one presidential elector is chosen from each congressional district and two presidential electors are chosen at large. With LB 777, each presidential elector will cast his or her ballot for the presidential candidate who receives the highest number of votes in the state.

In other words, the presidential candidate who receives the highest number of votes in the state will receive all five electoral votes.

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**LB 826 (Pahls) Adopt the County Consolidation Act**

LB 826 creates the County Consolidation Act. The intent of the Act is to consolidate the services and functions of county government, along with reducing the number of county employees and elected officials.

The Legislature's Planning Committee will develop a plan to reduce the number of counties in Nebraska to approximately 30 by 2018.

The Planning Committee will work with the Government Committee to develop legislation for introduction to accomplish the intent of this Act.

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**LB 839 (Lautenbaugh) Eliminate a period of invalidity of rules and regulations as prescribed**

Under LB 839, the Administrative Procedures Act is amended to eliminate the provision that no rule or regulation of any agency shall be valid against any person until five days after such rule or regulation is filed with the Secretary of State.

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**LB 980 (Wallman) Change personal services contract requirements and provide restrictions on privatization contracts**

LB 980 forbids the Director of Administrative Services from approving a privatization contract unless all of the following requirements are met:

1. The state agency provides written notice to the collective-bargaining agent of the intent to seek to enter into a privatization contract thirty-five days before the bidding process;
2. The proposed contact is projected to result in over-all cost savings to the state of at least 10% above the cost of having a state employee provide the service; and
3. When comparing the cost of having the service provided by a state employee versus the cost of a contractor, the expected costs should be compared over the life of the contract.

The bill defines privatization contract as a contract for personal services by a person other than a state employee who provides human labor at \$50,000 or more annually. Also, the contract must result in a reduction in force of at least one permanent state employee.

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**LB 1009 (Janssen) Change provisions relating to the date for fixing salaries of certain county officers**

LB 1009 provides that the salaries for all elected officers of the county will be fixed by the county board on or before January 15<sup>th</sup> of the year in which a general election will be held for these offices. Currently, the board fixes the salaries prior to January 15<sup>th</sup>.

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**LB 1015 (Haar) Adopt the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote**

LB 1015 creates the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote. The compact will become effective when states cumulatively possessing a majority of the electoral votes have enacted this compact.

The chief election official of each member state will designate the presidential slate with the largest national popular vote total as the national popular vote winner. The presidential elector certifying official of each member state will certify the appointment in that official's own state of the elector slate nominated in that state in association with the national popular vote winner.

Each state which has adopted the compact will make a determination of the number of popular votes cast in the state and communicate that determination to each other member state.

The compact outlines the procedure in the event of a tie and gives the presidential national popular vote winner the power to nominate the presidential electors in some circumstances.

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**LB 1035 (Cook) Provide powers for counties, cities and villages to control and abate public nuisances**

LB 1035 gives counties and municipalities the power to declare as a public health nuisance any condition that interferes with the health or safety of the community by the spreading of infectious diseases. Counties and municipalities may direct the owner or user of the property upon which the nuisance exists to abate the nuisance. If the owner or user refuses, the county or municipality may take steps to abate the nuisance and put a lien upon the property for the expense incurred.

The bill defines several things which constitute a public health nuisance, including: pools of water, animal carcasses, an accumulation of manure or trash, a broken sewer line, animals in unsanitary conditions, buildings damaged by fire, solid or industrial waste, dense smoke, blowing trash, damaged trees, weeds or grass, junkyards and water wells.

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**LB 1039 (Fulton) Adopt the Fire Extinguisher Certification Act**

LB 1039 adopts the Fire Extinguishing Certification Act.

Under the bill, it will be unlawful for a person to engage in the servicing of a portable fire extinguisher or a pre-engineered fire-extinguishing system in any type of occupancy regulated by the State Fire Marshal without prior certification.

Application for certification for such servicing will be made to the State Fire Marshal. Each applicant will submit proof of manufacturer certification or other recognized certification and proof of general liability insurance. The State Fire Marshal may require a fee of up to \$100 for the certification.

The State Fire Marshal may refuse to renew, revoke or suspend certification for negligence or for material misrepresentation by the applicant.

Portable fire extinguishers and pre-engineered fire-extinguishing systems will be serviced following the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association codes. An approved tag will be affixed following each inspection.

A copy of the most recent report on a portable fire extinguisher or a pre-engineered fire-extinguisher system will be provided to the State Fire Marshal.

The bill defines: acceptable test, portable fire extinguisher, portable fire extinguisher servicing, pre-engineered fire-extinguishing system, and pre-engineered fire-extinguishing system servicing.

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**LB 1059 (Avery) Provide for digital and electronic signatures on initiative and referendum petitions**

LB 1059 requires the Secretary of State to design a system to allow electors to use digital or electronic signatures to sign initiatives and referendum petitions via the Internet. The sponsors of the petition may decide whether to use the Internet.

The petition form used via the Internet will comply with current sections regarding the form of initiative and referendum petitions. There will be no circulators for petitions via the Internet.

The elector will be able to view the petition, affix his or her digital or electronic signature, complete the required information, and return the petition electronically to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State will provide a method of determining the validity of signatures affixed digitally or electronically.

For purposes of preventing fraud, deception and misrepresentation, every petition will have upon it a statement warning petition signer of potential criminal charges for violations of various provisions.

The Secretary of State may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement these provisions.

**RESOLUTION SUMMARIES: 2010 RESOLUTIONS DELIVERED TO THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE**

**LR 284CA (Utter) Constitutional amendment to abolish the office of the State Treasurer**

LR 284CA amends the Nebraska Constitution to abolish the office of State Treasurer on January 1, 2013.

The committee amendment provides that the term of the State Treasurer elected at the general election at which this constitutional amendment passes will end on January 8, 2015. The intent of this change is to allow the State Treasurer to complete his or her full term before the office is abolished.

## **RESOLUTIONS SUMMARIES: 2010 RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED**

**LR 273 (Howard) Urge the United States in its relations with the Turkish government to encourage the Turkish government to take certain actions**

With LR 273, the Legislature urges the United States in its relations with the Turkish government to encourage the Turkish government to: uphold and safeguard religious and human rights without compromise; cease its discrimination of the Ecumenical Patriarchate; grant the Ecumenical Patriarch appropriate international recognition, ecclesiastical succession, and the right to train clergy to all nationalities; and respect the property rights and human rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

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**LR 538 (Pirsch) Provide the Legislature remains committed to seeking a federal balanced budget**

LR 538 provides that the Legislature remain committed to seeking a federal balanced budget.

In 1976, the Legislature passed a resolution proposing to Congress that procedures be instituted to add a new article to the U.S. Constitution that the total of all federal appropriations made by Congress not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenue for that fiscal year. Alternatively, the resolution proposed that Congress call for a constitutional convention for the purpose of proposing a balanced budget amendment.

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**LR 539 (Fulton) Encourage the Congress of the United States to adhere to the principles of federalism in accord with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States Constitution**

With LR 539, the Legislature encourages the Congress of the United States to adhere to the principles of federalism in accord with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States.

## **RESOLUTION SUMMARIES: 2010 RESOLUTIONS ON GENERAL FILE**

### **LR 292 (Fulton) Memorialize the United States Congress to adhere to the principles of federalism in accord with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States Constitution**

With LR 292, the Legislature memorializes the Congress of the United States to adhere to the principles of federalism in accord with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States.

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### **LR 300CA (Nelson) Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions**

LR 300CA provides that initiatives to enact laws will be signed by three percent (3%) of the registered voters and will be distributed to include three percent (3%) of the registered voters of each of two-fifths of the county of the state. For an initiative to change the Constitution, the petition will be signed by five percent (5%) of the registered voters and such voters will be distributed to include five percent (5%) of the registered voters of each of two-fifths of the counties.

The committee amendment strikes the original sections and replaces them with the following new language:

For initiative petitions enacting a law, the petition will be signed by four percent (4%) of the registered voters of the state. Currently, these initiative petitions require signatures by seven percent (7%) of the registered voters.

The committee amendment was not adopted and the resolution failed to advance from General File.

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### **LR 301CA (Price) Constitutional amendment to change initiative and referendum petition signature requirements**

LR 301CA provides that the number of signatures required on initiative and referendum measures will be calculated as of January 1 of the calendar year in which the petition signatures are filed.

The resolution also eliminates language that the number of signatures required for initiative or referendum petitions be based on the votes cast for Governor.

With the committee amendment, the number of signatures required on initiative and referendum petitions will be calculated as of January 1 of the calendar year following the general election next preceding the general election at which the measure would be on the ballot.

## **RESOLUTION SUMMARIES: 2010 RESOLUTIONS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**

### **LR 278CA (Nordquist) Constitutional amendment to set certain salaries in the Constitution**

LR 278CA adds a new section to the Nebraska Constitution that sets the salaries for certain constitutional officers as follows: for the Governor, \$85,000 per year; for the Lieutenant Governor, \$65,000 a year; for the Secretary of State, \$65,000 per year; for the Auditor of Public Accounts and the State Treasurer, \$60,000 per year; and for Attorney General, \$75,000 per year.

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### **LR 279CA (Avery) Constitutional amendment to change the number of signatures required on initiative petitions**

LR 279CA changes the signature requirements for initiative petitions.

The number of signatures required for the enactment of a law is decreased from seven to four percent of the registered voters of the state. The number of signatures required to amend the Constitution is increased from ten to fifteen percent of registered voters of the state.

## GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

### INDEX OF BILLS

#### ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION – 2010

LB/LR	Introducers	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 17	White, Mello, Nordquist, McCoy	Provide for a tuition waiver for combat-injured veterans.	1/22/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 33	Fulton	Change county zoning provisions with respect to density of population.	1/23/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 66	Rogert	Change limits on contributions and gifts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.	1/29/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 86	Wallman	Change the Capitol Landscape Restoration Master Plan.	2/5/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 115	Louden	Eliminate the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery Advisory Board.	1/21/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	Provisions/Portions of LB 115 amended into LB 154 by AM25.
LB 125	Avery, Nantkes	Provide for voter registration on election day.	2/18/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	2009 Interim Study Resolution (LR 127)
LB 126	Avery	Require financial disclosure statements from constitutional officers and candidates.	1/29/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 139	Avery, Howard	Rename the Commission on Mexican-Americans	1/21/09	General File with AM823	Approved by Governor on 2/11/10	

<b>LB/LR</b>	<b>Introducers</b>	<b>One-Liners</b>	<b>Hearing Date</b>	<b>Committee Disposition</b>	<b>Bill Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
LB 191	Fulton	Provide for the waiver of a fine or penalty for an information collection requirement for small businesses.	2/5/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 279	Avery	Require notification to military installations regarding development of real property.	2/12/09	General File with AM909	Approved by Governor on 2/11/10	
LB 280	Avery	Create the Commission on Military Affairs.	2/12/09	General File	General File	Laid over
LB 295	Campbell	Provide and change recording requirements for filings with the register of deeds.	2/5/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 321	Avery	Provide for state employees to participate in mentoring programs.	2/20/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 324	Nelson	Provide for designation of voting entrances and change restrictions on electioneering.	2/11/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 325	Nelson	Change provisions relating to elections.	2/11/09	General File with AM474	Approved by Governor on 2/11/10	
LB 337	Friend	Change restrictions on advertising and promotional materials relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust.	2/6/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 349	Lautenbaugh	Change provisions relating to recall of elected officials.	2/18/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 350	Lautenbaugh	Change provisions relating to real estate tracts and the designation of industrial areas.	2/6/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	

<b>LB/LR</b>	<b>Introducers</b>	<b>One-Liners</b>	<b>Hearing Date</b>	<b>Committee Disposition</b>	<b>Bill Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
LB 362	Avery	Change requirements for candidate filing forms.	2/25/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	Provisions/Portions of LB 362 amended into LB 501 by AM551.
LB 363	Avery	Prohibit certain expenditures by campaign committees.	3/5/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 382	Rogert	Provide for voter registration on election day at the election office.	2/18/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	2009 Interim Study Resolution (LR 127)
LB 410	Karpisek, Wallman	Change provisions relating to recounts of elections.	2/25/09	General File on 3/1/10	General File	
LB 465	Christensen	Provide for videoconferencing and telephone conferences for educational service unit board meetings.	2/19/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	Provisions/Portions of LB 465 and LB 639 amended into LB 361 by AM552.
LB 475	Stuthman	Change duties of county comptroller and create office of auditor.	3/12/09	General File with AM830	Approved by Governor on 2/11/10	
LB 486	Karpisek	Require certain governmental entities to identify themselves as such in their official name.	3/5/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 509	Pirsch	Redefine election period for the Campaign Finance Limitation Act.	3/5/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 512	Lautenbaugh	Change airport zoning provisions relating to the regulation of airport hazards.	2/12/09	General File	Approved by Governor on 3/3/10	
LB 527	Fulton	Require installation of automatic vehicle location system devices in state-owned vehicles.	3/12/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 529	Pahls	Transfer ownership of certain computer equipment from the Secretary of State to county clerks.	2/20/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	

<b>LB/LR</b>	<b>Introducers</b>	<b>One-Liners</b>	<b>Hearing Date</b>	<b>Committee Disposition</b>	<b>Bill Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
LB 544	Giese	Require the Secretary of State to publish guidelines for election workers.	2/11/09	General File	General File	Failed to advance to Enrollment & Review Initial
LB 550	Avery	Change provisions relating to Military Department personnel and provide peace officer powers to National Guard members.	2/26/09	General File	Approved by Governor on 2/11/10	
LB 574	Rogert	Change reporting requirements under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.	3/4/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 575	Rogert	Change initiative and referendum petition provisions.	3/11/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	2009 Interim Study Resolution (LR 119)
LB 635	Mello	Change reporting requirements for political party committees under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.	3/4/09	General File with AM1140	General File with AM1140	Lautenbaugh MO76 - Bracket until 4/14/10 – Prevailed
LB 638	Lautenbaugh	Repeal the Campaign Finance Limitation Act and change reporting requirements under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.	3/4/09	General File	General File	Lautenbaugh MO75 IPP filed – Laid over
LB 639	Karpisek	Change provisions relating to telephone conferencing for public meetings.	2/19/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	Provisions/Portions of LB 465 and LB 639 amended into LB 361 by AM552.
LB 645	Mello	Change provisions relating to public contracts for services.	3/11/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 662	Janssen	Change provisions relating to nomination for certain offices.	2/25/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 674	Nantkes	Authorize establishment of an internal auditing system by the University of Nebraska.	3/11/09	General File with AM671	General File with AM671	
LB 678	Haar	Change provisions relating to minutes of public meetings.	2/19/09	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
<b>2010 Legislation</b>						
LB 686	Wightman	Change fees received by clerks and registers of deeds	1/22/10	General File with AM1598	General File with AM1598	Failed to advance to Enrollment & Review Initial. <b>Gov. Committee priority bill.</b>
LB 714	Avery	Change requirements for disclaimers on political material.	1/21/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 715	Avery	Authorize projects in a specific portion of the Nebraska State Capitol Environs District.	2/3/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 716	Avery	Change eligibility requirements for members of a community college board of governors.	1/28/10	General File with AM1694	General File with AM1694	Provisions/Portions of LB 716 amended into LB 951 by Avery AM2061.
LB 718	Avery	Change requirements for petitions and petition signatures.	2/10/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 721	Avery	Change qualification requirements for the State Building Administrator.	1/20/10	General File	Approved by Governor on 3/3/10	
LB 722	Avery	Change provisions relating to a state bonding requirement, sale of state real property, and state-owned motor vehicles.	1/20/10	General File with AM1616	Approved by Governor on 3/3/10	

LB/LR	Introducers	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 737	Karpisek	Provide an exemption from the State Personnel System.	1/21/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LB 742	McCoy, Pirsch	Provide requirements for settled claims and settlement agreements involving public entities and provide that such claims and agreements are public records.	1/21/10	General File with AM1967	Approved by Governor on 4/5/10	<b>Sen. McCoy's priority bill.</b>
LB 753	Christensen	Change qualifications for the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety.	1/20/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 767	Price	Change county ordinance provisions to provide for notice to be given for abandoned motor vehicles.	2/11/10	General File with AM1820	General File with AM1820	
LB 768	Stuthman	Provide for the termination of township boards as prescribed.	1/22/10	General File	Approved by Governor on 3/17/10	<b>Speaker priority bill</b>
LB 777	McCoy, Janssen	Change provisions relating to presidential electors.	2/24/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	2010 Interim Study Resolution (LR 423)
LB 791	Pirsch	Provide for the electronic filing of certain documents with the Secretary of State.	1/20/10	General File with AM1617	Approved by Governor on 3/3/10	
LB 794	White	Change early voting provisions.	1/27/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 815	Haar	Change requirements for political subdivision budget statements and financial information on the state web site.	1/28/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	2010 Interim Study Resolution (LR 431)
LB 826	Pahls, Avery	Adopt the County Consolidation Act.	1/22/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LB 839	Lautenbaugh	Eliminate a period of invalidity of rules and regulations as prescribed.	1/28/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	

LB/LR	Introducers	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 850	Avery, Conrad	Require public postsecondary educational institutions to provide information on early voting to students.	1/27/10	General File	General File	Provisions/Portions of LB 850 amended into LB 951 by Avery AM2061.
LB 852	Avery	Provide for write-in space on official ballots for certain offices.	2/24/10	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/12/10	
LB 875	Giese	Provide for voter registration on the Secretary of State's web site.	1/27/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	2010 Interim Study Resolution (LR 409)
LB 947	Avery	Eliminate the Community Development Block Grant Program Advisory Committee.	2/11/10	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/12/10	
LB 948	Avery	Change provisions relating to agency requisitions and competitive bidding.	2/4/10	General File with AM1921	Select File	Avery MO91 – Unanimous consent to bracket until 4/14/10 approved. <b>Sen. Price priority bill</b>
LB 951	Avery, Cook	Change provisions relating to early voting, multiple office-holding, and provisional ballots.	1/27/10	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/5/10	Provisions/Portions of LB 716 and LB 850 amended into LB 951 by Avery AM2061. <b>Gov't. Committee priority bill.</b>
LB 970	Campbell	Change provisions relating to appeals from county planning commission decisions.	2/11/10	General File with AM2023	Approved by Governor on 4/7/10	<b>Speaker priority bill</b>
LB 978	Mello	Provide requirements relating to energy star certified appliances in the state's competitive bidding process.	2/4/10	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/12/10	
LB 980	Wallman	Change personal services contract requirements and provide restrictions on privatization contracts.	2/4/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	

LB/LR	Introducers	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 987	Krist, Gay, Giese, Wallman, Mello, Cook, Council	Create the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program and provide duties for the Department of Economic Development.	2/3/10	General File with AM1778	Approved by Governor on 4/14/10	<b>One-liner changed from study of lung cancer in veterans to Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program.</b> Provisions/ portions of LB 636 amended into LB 987 by Council AM2418. <b>Sen. Krist priority bill.</b>
LB 1003	Giese	Provide for provisional ballots for change of residence in Nebraska.	2/24/10	Held in Committee	Held in Committee	
LB 1009	Janssen	Change provisions relating to the date for fixing salaries of certain county officers.	2/11/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LB 1015	Haar	Adopt the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote.	2/10/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	2010 Interim Study Resolution (LR 423)
LB 1035	Cook	Provide powers for counties, cities and villages to control and abate public health nuisances.	2/3/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LB 1039	Fulton	Adopt the fire Extinguishing Certification Act.	2/11/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LB 1059	Avery	Provide for digital and electronic signatures on initiative and referendum petitions.	2/10/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	2010 Interim Study Resolution (LR 472)
LR 273	Howard	Urge the United States in its relations with the Turkish government to encourage the Turkish government to take certain actions.	2/19/10	Reported to the Legislature for further consideration.	Adopted. President/Speaker signed on 4/13/10	

LB/LR	Introducers	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LR 278CA	Nordquist	Constitutional amendment to set certain salaries in the Constitution	2/5/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LR 279CA	Avery	Constitutional amendment to change the number of signatures required on initiative petitions.	2/17/10	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LR 284CA	Utter	Constitutional amendment to abolish the office of the State Treasurer.	2/5/10	General File with AM1906	Presented to Secretary of State on 3/26/10	<b>Sen. Utter priority resolution</b>
LR 292	Fulton, McCoy, Price, Janssen, Coash, Harms, Schilz	Memorialize the United States Congress to adhere to the principles of federalism in accord with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.	2/19/10	General File	General File	<b>Corrected Statement:</b> Was reported to Legislature for further consideration, but corrected to report to General File
LR 300CA	Nelson	Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions.	2/17/10	General File with AM1971	General File	Failed to advance to Enrollment & Review Initial. <b>Sen. Nelson priority resolution.</b>
LR 301CA	Price	Constitutional amendment to change initiative and referendum petition signature requirements.	2/17/10	General File with AM2022	General File with AM2022	
LR 538	Pirsch, Janssen, Karpisek, Pahls, Price, Sullivan, White	Provide the Legislature remains committed to seeking a federal balanced budget.	4/8/10	Reported to Legislature for further consideration.	Adopted. President/Speaker signed on 4/13/10	
LR 539	Fulton, Coash, Harms, Janssen, McCoy, Price, Schilz, Lautenbaugh	Encourage the Congress of the United States to adhere to the principles of federalism in accord with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.	4/8/10	Reported to Legislature for further consideration.	Adopted. President/Speaker signed on 4/13/10	
Governor Appointment	Reynold McMeen	State Emergency Response Commission	2/3/10	Reported to Legis. for confirmation.	Legislature Approved (2-18-10)	

## **LIST OF INTERIM STUDIES (IN ORDER OF PRIORITY)**

- LR 409 Interim study to examine the subject of online voter registration
- LR 507 Interim study to examine ways to streamline all levels of government including, but not limited to, elimination, consolidation or reassignment
- LR 470 Interim study to examine the issue of how political subdivisions may be impacted by the 2010 United States Census
- LR 472 Interim study to examine the issue of using electronic and digital signatures on initiative and referendum petitions
- LR 492 Interim study to examine issues relating to adding a fiftieth senator to the Legislature
- LR 471 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
- LR 519 Interim study to examine issues relating to Firearms Freedom Acts which have been enacted or introduced by other state legislatures
- LR 431 Interim study to examine how private sources of money given to public institutions should be disclosed
- LR 423 Interim study to examine the way Nebraska awards electoral votes in presidential elections